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INFORMATION REPORT

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Steps Planned by Directorate General, Railroads

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Berlin, to Improve Locomotive Park

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PLACE **ACQUIRED**  SUPPLEMENT TO

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In order to implement the expanded program for repairing the 4,700 locomotives, now making up the locomotive park, it is necessary that the following measures be adopted:

## Technical Organization

- (1) The locomotive depots will be responsible for the repair work for 500 locomotives in Group LO and for 150 in Group L2. Forty-one depots will be involved; the larger depots will be responsible for Group L2 since they can make the repairs without help from the RAW's (Reichsbahn-Ausbesserungswerke - railroad major repair shops).
- (2) Lowa Lokomotivbau Karl Marx Babelsberg VEB, VEB-Lokomotivbau Elektrotechnische Werke (LEW) VEB, and VEB's Freital and Muehlhausen (for narrow gauge locomotives) will be responsible for 300 locomotives of which 220 have been taken from the supplementary program.
- (3) The repair program of the RAW's will be expanded by increasing their work with respect to the most heavily damaged group. This will result in a higher performance for the RAW's, amounting to a 7 percent increase over the first 1952 Plan and to a 17 percent increase over the 1951 Plan.

The measures referred to in (1) and (2) above have already been taken. Negotiations with the Ministry for Machine Construction (Department for the Construction of Rolling Stock) and with the Lowa works are running into difficulties. We have only received promises from VEB's Freital and Muehlhausen with respect to 50 narrow gauge locomotives.

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The Lowa plant at Babelsberg alleges that it is not, at the moment, in a position to complete the 80 capital tasks allocated to it by the end of the year, despite the promise of the Ministry for Machine Construction. This refusal is attributed to a lack of work capacity and to material difficulties. The plant is attempting to secure a reduction of its tasks from Minister Gerhard Ziller.

The LEW plant at Hennigsdorf estimates that, of the supplementary program, it will be able to repair 35 locomotives and is prepared to conclude a contract. Under present conditions, at least 135 of the 300 locomotives allocated to the VEB's for repair cannot be accommodated. Further, it is impossible to distribute the 135 among the locomotive depots because of the boiler work which must be done. Special efforts will be necessary to implement the expanded boiler program at the RAW's. The 1952 Plan provides for an allocation of 340,000 DM to procure tools for boiler work and to complete the equipment of the boiler workshops which will permit their full exploitation.

#### b. Planned Improvements

- (1) Control will be reorganized. Effective 1 April control of the existing RAW's will come under the Technical Director.
- (2) An improvement in repair techniques at the RAW's is planned.

  Measures for implementation of this plan with respect to air and feed pumps, stuffing boxes, and springs, along the lines of the Kovaliov method, are now being studied.

# 2. Beginning of the Locomotive Repair Plan

### a. RAW's

As a result of a shortage of material supplies, particularly of smoke and fire tubes, boiler sheet metal, sheet metal for fire boxes, and carbide, the locomotive repair plan could not be carried out. The plan was 89 percent fulfilled in January and 96 percent fulfilled in February. A provisional 85 percent is estimated for March. A request for improved material supplies has been sent to the Ministry.

### b. Locomotive Depots

To date only 20 out of a total of 650 locomotives have been repaired.

## c. VEB's

To date no locomotives have been repaired.

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